



GP2858

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Ahrens, Jr. et al.**

Serial No.: **09/971,144**

Filed: **October 4, 2001**

For: **Data Processing System, Method,
and Product for Automatically
Tracking Insertions of Integrated
Circuit Devices**

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Group Art Unit: **2858**

Examiner: **Unknown**

Attorney Docket No.: **AUS920010758US1**

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

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By:

Krista Douthitt

TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

ENCLOSED HERewith:

- Preliminary amendment; and
- Our return postcard.

No fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

Duke W. Yee

Registration No. 34,285

CARSTENS YEE & CAHOON, LLP

P.O. Box 802334

Dallas, Texas 75380

(972) 367-2001

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

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By:

Krista Douthitt
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

*4 / Prel. Amndt. A
E. Willis
5-23-02*

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Prior to continued examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

✓
Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 25, and insert the following: ✓

A1 **Figures 5A-5B** depict a high level flow chart which illustrates tracking the number of insertions of integrated circuit devices in accordance with the present invention; and